

Message Text

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ORIGIN INR-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SIG-03 PM-05
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /073 R

DRAFTED BY INR/RSE/EE: S J ASTERIOU:SJR
APPROVED BY INR/DDR: M PACKMAN
INR/RSE/OD: P K COOK
EUR/EE J. GLENN
INR/REA: PSTODDARD
EUR/SOV: G MATTHEW
NEA: M DRAPER

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-----006062 271839Z /72

R 271652Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 078039

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: BU, XH, XF

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE BULGARIAN MANDATE ON RELATIONS WITH ARAB
COMMUNIST PARTIES

REF : SOFIA 502

1. DEPARTMENT HAS NO EVIDENCE THAT THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY HAS SOME KIND OF MANDATE FROM MOSCOW FOR CONTACTS WITH ARAB COMMUNIST PARTIES. IN ANY CASE, SUCH CONTACTS HAVE BEEN VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTENT IN RECENT YEARS, THE LAST ONE OCCURRING IN MAY AND SEPTEMBER 1975 WHEN SEVERAL RANKING OFFICIALS OF THE LEBANESE COMMUNIST PARTY VISITED BULGARIA.

2. THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY DOES, HOWEVER, PUSH CONTACTS WITH SEVERAL RULING ARAB NON-COMMUNIST PARTIES AND HAS SIGNED TWO-YEAR BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE BAATH PARTIES OF IRAQ, SYRIA, AND THE UNITED POLITICAL ORGANIZATION-NATIONAL FRONT OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN. IT HAS ALSO SENT DELEGATIONS TO VISIT THE TWO BAATH PARTIES IN RECENT YEARS. SINCE IT ;OES THE KREMLIN LINE, THESE CONTACTS NO DOUBT HAD MOSCOW'S BLESSING. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNISM, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE078039
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S J ASTERIOU:SJR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780133-0188
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780322/aaaaaseo.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 63b612bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SOFIA 502
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3194782
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE BULGARIAN MANDATE ON RELATIONS WITH ARAB COMMUNIST PARTIES
TAGS: PGOV, BU, XH, XF
To: SOFIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/63b612bd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014